



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION I

J. F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203

NOV 25 1986



SDMS DocID 564365

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

NEW ENGLAND GAS & ELECTRIC SYSTEM
c/o RICHARD J. MORRISON
COMMONWEALTH ENERGY SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 190
COMBRIDGE, MA 02139

Re: Conditional Release Relative to the
Cannons Engineering Corporation Case

Dear Sir or Madam:

In a letter sent to NEW ENGLAND GAS & ELECTRIC SYSTEM this year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notified NEW ENGLAND GAS & ELECTRIC SYSTEM that it might be one of a number of parties responsible for certain hazardous conditions at the one or more hazardous waste facilities associated with the Cannons Engineering Corporation. That determination was based on a review of records obtained from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the State of New Hampshire, and the Cannons Engineering Corporation which evidenced some business relationship concerning waste chemicals between that company and your company. However, it was not clear whether that relationship extended to the handling of shipments of waste materials that were delivered to the Cannons Engineering Corporation facility in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. The notice letter from EPA proposed discussion leading to your participation in cleanup activities at the several sites, and in a settlement relative to the costs incurred by the government in cleaning up the sites.

Since the issuance of the original notice letters, further information has come into the EPA's possession, through documents provided by potentially responsible parties in response to the information requests that accompanied the notice letters, and through further investigation of the operations of the Cannons Engineering Corporation. Based on the information presently in the possession of EPA, we can now state that the business dealings of NEW ENGLAND GAS & ELECTRIC SYSTEM with Cannons Engineering Corporation do not appear to have contributed to the conditions at the sites within the meaning of the relevant statutes. As such, EPA does not presently believe that NEW ENGLAND GAS & ELECTRIC SYSTEM is a responsible party with respect to the Cannons Engineering Corporation case.

The government must reserve its right to reassess NEW ENGLAND GAS & ELECTRIC SYSTEM's relationship to the Cannons Engineering Corporation sites if new facts are discovered.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Baigent
for

Merrill S. Hohman, Director
Waste Management Division

cc: E. Michael Thomas, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel
Office of Regional Counsel

Dana Bisbee, Assistant Attorney General
State of New Hampshire

Gregg Wilson, Assistant Attorney General
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENDER: Complete items 1 and 2 when additional services are desired, and complete items 3 and 4.

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1. ☒ Show to whom delivered, date, and addressee's address. 2. ☐ Restricted Delivery.

3. Article Addressed to:

NEW ENGLAND GAS & ELECTRIC SYSTEM
c/o RICHARD J. MORRISON
COMMONWEALTH ENERGY SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 190
COMBRIDGE, MA 02139 1356

4. Article Number

P 340 041 217

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PS Form 3811, Feb. 1986

DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT

P 340 041 217

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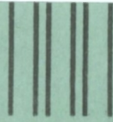
NEW ENGLAND GAS & ELECTRIC SYSTEM
c/o RICHARD J. MORRISON
COMMONWEALTH ENERGY SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 190
COMBRIDGE, MA 02139 1356

* U.S.G

PS Form 3800, June 1985

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TO



Print Sender's name, address, and ZIP Code in the space below.

Gregory A. Roscoe
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 3254
Reston, VA 22090

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3. If you want a return receipt, write the certified mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card, Form 3811, and attach it to the front of the article by means of the gummed ends if space permits. Otherwise, affix to back of article. Endorse front of article **RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED** adjacent to the number.
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